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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/661,737	09/14/2000	Noriyuki Ohsawa	FUJY 17.750	9012

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EXAMINER

NG, CHRISTINE Y

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2663

DATE MAILED: 06/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/661,737

Applicant(s)

OHSAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Christine Ng

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-7 and 9-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 2-6 and 9-11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 September 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 7 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,852,405 to Yoneda et al.

Yoneda et al disclose in Figures, 1, 5 and 6 a communication line control method comprising:

Providing a plurality of communication terminal devices (Figure 1, Master stations 11,12) each incorporating communication functions containing voice communications and data communications, and accommodating a plurality of communication lines (channels) connected to a network.

Notifying, if there occurs a change in state of one arbitrary communication terminal device (Figure 1, Master stations 11,12), of this state to a line control unit (Figure 5, LAN Controller 21) of the other communication terminal device (Figure 1, Master stations 11,12) from an interface (Figure 5, Wired-LAN interface 21a) of the one arbitrary communication terminal device (Figure 1, Master stations 11,12) that has a function of operating with an independent power supply (Column 7, lines 23-26). Each master station 11,12 notifies the other master station 11,12 of the state of its channel use ("IN USE" or "NOT IN USE") using the LAN controller 21. Refer to Column 4, lines

16-31; Column 5, line 65 to Column 6, line 5; and Column 6, lines 36-57. Though Yoneda et al do not specifically disclose that the power supply is connected to a line control unit of said one arbitrary communication terminal device, Yoneda et al discloses that "power is introduced to a prescribed master station", allowing the parts of the LAN controller 21 to operate (such as the frame processor 21d). Refer to Column 7, lines 23-39. Therefore, the power supply must be connected to the line control unit (LAN controller 21).

Updating a condition table (Figure 5, Channel management table 22) in the line control unit (Figure 5, LAN Controller 21) of the other communication terminal devices (Figure 1, Master stations 11,12). The LAN controller 21 of each master station 11,12 then stores the state of use of channels ("IN USE" or "NOT IN USE") in table 22 using the information from itself and other master stations 11,12. Refer to Column 4, lines 16-31; Column 5, line 65 to Column 6, line 5; and Column 6, lines 36-57.

Executing the line control related to the communication terminal device (Figure 1, Master stations 11,12) exhibiting the change in state. Refer to Column 4, lines 16-31; Column 5, line 65 to Column 6, line 5; and Column 6, lines 36-57.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 2-7 and 9-11 are allowed.

***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments filed January 18, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Referring to the argument for claims 7 and 12 that the interface 21a of Yoneda et

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al does not have a function of operating with an independent power supply, refer to Figure 5. The LAN controller 21 includes a wired-LAN interface 21a for interfacing with the wired LAN (Column 6, lines 26-27). The master stations 11,12 connected to the wired LAN notifies one another of the state of use of its own channel through notification packets sent through the wired LAN. Refer to Column 4, lines 16-31. When power is introduced to a master station, frame processor 21d checks to determine whether it has received the notification packets from other master stations through the wired LAN. Refer to Column 7, lines 23-39. Since the notification packets are sent through the wired LAN, they must pass through the wired-LAN interface 21a. Therefore, wired-LAN interface 21a also operates under the independent power supply. The power supply is independent in that each master station 11,12 has its own power supply.

### ***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christine Ng whose telephone number is (571) 272-3124. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F; 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Ngo can be reached on (571) 272-3139. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

C. Ng CW  
May 6, 2005

  
**RICKY NGO**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**